

LUD 5480.2 DIV (10109389)

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via teletype pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 to Group 1642, Examiner Susan Ungar of the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 at fax number (703) 305-7230 on February 27, 2004.

Pani Malikourakis
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : GURE et al.
Serial No : 09/975,856
Filed : October 11, 2001
For : ANTIBODIES SPECIFIC FOR SSX PROTEINS
Art Unit : 1642
Examiner : Susan UNGAR

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT
AND AMENDMENT

STR:

This is submitted in response to the Office Action of February 17, 2004.

In response to that action, applicants elect Group III; however, it is believed that the Examiner mischaracterizes the scope of the claims.

Claim 24 depends from claim 20, which is NOT limited to SEQ ID NO: 1. Rather, there are two options, recognized by the Examiner as per, e.g., Group I. As such, applicants are rewriting claim 24, which is a dependent claim, to reflect this.

Please amend this application as follows:

LUD 5480.2 DIV (10109389)IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-24. (Canceled)

- Claim 25. (New) A method for determining expression of an SSX4 gene, comprising contacting a sample with an isolated antibody which specifically binds to a protein (i) encoded by an isolated nucleic acid molecule having the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, or (ii) encoded by an isolated nucleic acid having nucleotides 1-330 of SEQ ID NO: 1, concatenated to nucleotides 467-576 of SEQ ID NO: 1, and determining binding of said antibody to a target as a determination of expression of SSX4.
- Claim 26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein binding of said antibody to said target as a determination of expression of SSX4 is indicative of cancer cells being present in said sample.
- Claim 27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein said cancer is melanoma.

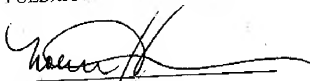
LUD 5480.2 DIV (10102382)**REMARKS**

Claim 25 presents elected claim 24, in independent form. Claims 26 and 27 are supported by pages 15 and 16 of the specification.

Examination of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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